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Grievances of road maistris.

* 104 *Q.*—Sri K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state what is the result of the considerations of the Government on the representations received from the road maistries under Highways and District Boards to give them certain benefits with reference to his reply to question No. 354, dated 6th April 1953?

The Hon. Raja Sri SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" The attention of the Member is invited to question No. 240 put by him on the subject and answered on the floor of the House on 24th December 1953. The question is still under examination."

Sri K. ARANGANATHAN :—" The answer given by the Hon. Minister then was that this matter was still under consideration of Government. Even now the Hon. Minister says that the matter is still under the consideration of Government. May I know how long will the Government be considering the matter, how long will they take to finalise this matter and why they have allowed so many months to elapse before taking any final decision in the matter? "

The Hon. Raja Sri SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" This has been deferred after partition. That was the substance of the reply I gave. We have to take into consideration the report. The report was received from the Chief Engineer (Highways) in January and we have asked for certain information by way of clarification about certain grades he has suggested, about their jurisdiction and so on. Our communication has been sent on 15th of February. His reply is awaited. As soon as his reply is received, we will be taking necessary action."

Iron and magnesite ores in Salem district.

* 105 *Q.*—Sri N. K. PALANISAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) the steps taken by the Government for the mining and extraction of iron, and magnesite ores in Kanjamalai, Kodumalai, Patchai Malai, etc., in Salem district; and

(*b*) whether any experiments were conducted to work out the scheme?

The Hon. Dr. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" (*a*) The Government have not taken any steps for the mining and extraction of iron and magnesite ores in Salem district. However, applications from private persons have been received for the grant of mineral concessions for iron ore in Kanjamalai and Kodumalai Reserved Forests of Salem district and they are under consideration of the Government.

" (*b*) No Sir; as Government have no proposal at present to extract the ores themselves."

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SRI N. K. PALANISAMI :—" வேலையில்லாத் திண்டாட்டம் நாளுக்கு நாள் அதிகரித்து வருகிறது. நெய்வேலியில் நிலக்கரி கிடைக்கிறது. சேலத்தில் இரும்பும், **magnesite**-ம் கிடைக்கின்றன. இவைகளையெல்லாம் உபயோகித்து, வேலையில்லாத் திண்டாட்டத்தைப் போக்குவதற்கு சர்க்கார் ஏதாவது நடவடிக்கை எடுக்குமா ? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I am glad, Sir, at the optimism of the hon. Member about the success of the operations at Neyveli. But coal has not yet been mined at Neyveli. When mining of coal becomes possible, the suggestion of the hon. Member might be considered."

SRI M. PALANIYANDI :—" மூலப் பொருளான **magnesite** சேலத்தில் கிடைக்கும்போது அதை வெளிநாட்டிற்கு அனுப்பாமல் இங்கேயே வேண்டிய சாமான்களாகச் செய்தால் வேலையில்லாத்திண்டாட்டத்தைக் குறைக்க முடியுமல்லவா ? இந்த மூலப் பொருளைப் பயன் படுத்துவதற்கு அரசாங்கம் ஆவன செய்யுமா ? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member is going away from the main question."

SRI M. PALANIYANDI :—" No, Sir, ' Magnesite ' is coming under this question."

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" Even now magnesite is extracted by labourers who are employed by private agencies engaged in mining of magnesite."

SRI M. PALANIYANDI :—" சேலத்திலிருந்து **magnesite** எடுக்கப்பட்டு வெளியிடங்களுக்கு அனுப்பப்படுகிறது. அதை **bricks**-களாகச் செய்ய ஆரம்பித்தால் நிச்சயமாக ஏராளமான தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு வேலை கொடுக்க முடியும். ஆகையால் இங்கேயே அதைச் சாமான்களாகச் செய்வதற்கு நடவடிக்கை எடுக்க அரசாங்கம் முன்வருமா ?"

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" So far, Government have left the question of ' mining ' to the private sector. That has been our policy so far. Until that policy is changed, I am afraid we cannot accept the suggestion of the hon. Member."

Employment of unemployed graduates.

* 106 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any special grant from the Centre for the employment of the unemployed graduates as teachers; and

(*b*) if so, how much?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) No, Sir. The Government propose to open with effect from the next school year, 1,270 schools in the school-less centres in this State with a population of over a 1,000 each, and grant from the Government of India towards the opening of these schools will be received in 1954–55.

" (*b*) Does not arise in view of the answer to clause (*a*)."